

USINT Photo Contest
"Postcards from Home: Show Us Where You're From"
RULES

Rules & Guidelines:

The Contest is open to anyone currently resident in Cuba. US Interests Section (USINT) personnel and their immediate family members are ineligible to participate.

Contestants must be aged 14 years or older at time of submission of image/s.

Each Contestant may submit up to two images (or Entries). All Entries must be identified with a title, indicating where and when they were taken, and a brief description explaining why they represent "home". Additionally, each Entry must be accompanied with the name, date of birth, Cuban city or town of residence, and contact email address and telephone number of the Contestant. Finalists may be required to provide additional personal information to confirm eligibility in the age category and country of residence.

All Entries must be submitted in digital format with a minimum resolution of 300dpi. Entries should be sent via email to havanaprensaycultura@gmail.com. Should an Entry be selected as a finalist, the contestant will be required to provide digital images at a higher resolution appropriate for enlargement and printing.

All Entries must meet the theme of the contest: "Postcards from Home: Show Us Where You're From "

The Contest runs from 1-17 December, 2010. Entries received after 12:00 midnight on December 17, 2010 will be deemed ineligible.

Timing:

December 1-17, 2010: Entries submitted via email to havanaprensaycultura@gmail.com.

December 1, 2010 – January 14, 2011: All images received are displayed in a photo album on the USINT facebook page. USINT Facebook community views and rates entries. The ten Entries that receive the most number of votes will then be presented to a Judging Panel for selection of the grand prize winners.

January 21, 2011: Announcement of winners.

January 31 – February 18, 2011: Exhibition of photos on public display at USINT, Calzada e/L & M, Vedado, Havana.

Selection of Winners

The winning entries will be selected via a two-step process.

Step 1:

The 10 top-'liked' entries will be determined by the USINT facebook community via public voting. (To become a member of the community, visit the USINT facebook page and select the "Like" button at the top of the page). Members should indicate their selections by clicking on the "like" button immediately below each image. A member of the community may vote for as many entries as they wish; however each member may vote for each entry only once. Community members are asked to use the following criteria when voting for an entry:

(i) creativity; (ii) effectiveness; (iii) originality; (iv) photo quality

Step 2:

A panel of expert judges will select the First, Second and Third Place Prize Winners. At the judges' discretion an Honorable Mention may be selected. The judges' decision will be final and will be based on the following criteria:

(i) creativity; (ii) effectiveness; (iii) originality; (iv) photo quality

Prizes

The first prize is a Flipcam, the second prize is a digital camera and accessories, the third prize is a photography publication. Honorable mentions, if selected, will receive a photography publication.

The ten finalists in each category will be displayed on the USINT Facebook site and other USINT publications. In addition, images submitted will be included in a photography exhibition held at USINT from January 31 – February 18, 2011.

Disclaimers

This Photography Contest is sponsored by USINT. USINT reserves the right to use, reproduce, distribute and display any Entries submitted through the contest. By submitting an image to the contest, the Contestant affirms that he or she has obtained all necessary rights, licenses, consents and permissions to use that image. USINT will not be responsible for any property rights or other liabilities resulting from use of images. The Contest Organizers and Panel of Judges reserve the right to reject any Entry that is of a political, sexual or violent nature.

If for any reason the Contest is not capable of running as planned, including without limitation, infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes which corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the Contest, the Contest Organizers reserve the right, at their sole discretion, to cancel, modify or terminate the Contest.

USINT will undertake the cost of printing and framing the images as required for the Photography Exhibition at USINT.